

MICHAEL A. CARDOZO
Corporation Counsel

THE CITY OF NEW YORK
LAW DEPARTMENT
100 CHURCH STREET
NEW YORK, NY 10007

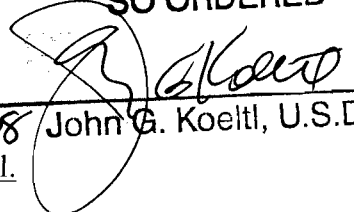
KARL J. ASHANTI
Assistant Corporation Counsel
Phone: (212) 227-0414
Fax: (212) 788-9776
kashanti@law.nyc.gov

March 18, 2008

BY HAND

Honorable John G. Koeltl
United States District Judge
Daniel Patrick Moynihan United States Courthouse
Southern District of New York
500 Pearl Street, Suite 1030
New York, New York 10007

**APPLICATION GRANTED
SO ORDERED**

3/19/08 
John G. Koeltl, U.S.D.J.

Re: Russel Azueta v. City of New York, et al.
08 CV 1883 (JGK)(KNF)

Your Honor:

I am an Assistant Corporation Counsel in the Special Federal Litigation Division of the New York City Law Department and the attorney assigned to represent defendant City of New York in the above-referenced matter. I write to respectfully request an enlargement of time from Wednesday, March 19, 2008 until Monday, May 19, 2008, for the defendant to answer or otherwise respond to the complaint. Plaintiff's counsel has consented to this application.

In the complaint, plaintiff alleges, *inter alia*, that on November 2, 2007, he was falsely arrested, subjected to excessive force and maliciously prosecuted by members of the New York City Police Department.

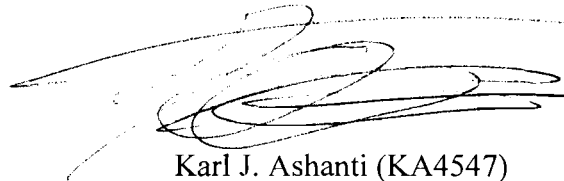
There are several reasons for seeking an enlargement of time. First, in accordance with this office's obligations under Rule 11 of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure, we need this additional time to investigate the allegations of the complaint. Therefore, this office will be forwarding to plaintiff for execution releases for his medical records. Additionally, as the complaint indicates that the charges against the plaintiff were dismissed, this office will be forwarding to plaintiff for execution consents to the designation of the Corporation Counsel as plaintiff's agent for release of records sealed pursuant to New York Criminal Procedure Law §160.50. Pursuant to that statute, all official records concerning plaintiff's arrests and/or prosecutions, including even our own police records, are sealed. Defendant cannot obtain these records without the designation and medical release, and without the records, defendant cannot properly assess this case or respond to the complaint.

Second, defendant City of New York has been served with process. However, upon information and belief, Robert Jackson has not yet been served. The extension should allow time for plaintiff to serve this individual defendant with process, for this office to confirm the validity of the purported service, and to determine, pursuant to Section 50-k of the New York General Municipal Law, and based on a review of the facts of the case, whether we may represent him. See Mercurio v. The City of New York, et al., 758 F.2d 862, 864-65 (2d Cir. 1985) (quoting Williams v. City of New York, et al., 64 N.Y.2d 800, 486 N.Y.S.2d 918 (1985) (decision whether to represent individual defendants is made by the Corporation Counsel as set forth in state law)).

No previous request for an extension has been made. Accordingly, we respectfully request that defendant's time to answer or otherwise respond to the complaint be extended to May 19, 2008.

Thank you for your consideration of this request.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Karl J. Ashanti', with a large, sweeping flourish extending to the left.

Karl J. Ashanti (KA4547)
Assistant Corporation Counsel

cc: Carmen S. Giordano (by fax)